REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 through 29 and 32 through 51 are pending.

II. RESTRICTION OR ELECTION REQUIREMENT

The subject matter of Claims 1 through 29 and 32 through 51 are subject to a restriction requirement. The Examiner finds six distinct inventions present. The requirement is respectfully traversed.

Applicants elect to prosecute Group I drawn to the "aqueous/ t-butanol solvent system/lyophilized powder." This Group is currently encompassed by Claims 1 through 9.

Group I is noted as drawn to "aqueous/ t-butanol solvent system/lyophilized powder" currently encompassed by Claims 1-9.

Group II is noted as drawn to "aqueous/ t-butanol solvent system/lyophilized powder containing either an anthracycline or annamycin or an active agent" currently encompassed by Claims 32-40 and 51.

Group III is noted as drawn to the methods of preparation of anthracycline or annamycin containing aqueous/ t-butanol solvent system/lyophilized powder " currently encompassed in claims 41 through 49.

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Group IV is noted as drawn to "a sterically, antigenicity hindered liposome, " currently encompassed by Claims 19 through 22.

Group V is noted as drawn to a "pharmaceutical composition containing anthracycline and a method of inhibiting tumors" currently encompassed by Claims 23 through 29 and 50.

Group VI is noted as drawn to a "method of preparation of anthracycline or annamycin containing liposomes" currently encompassed by Claims 10 through 18.

Applicants note that any search of the art would necessarily encompass a search of all six groups as designated by the Examiner. Particular attention is drawn to the fact that annamycin is an anthracycline. Clearly, a search of liposomal or preliposomal compositions which are noted to be suitable for encapsulating an anthracycline such as annamycin would include a search of preparing lipidic lyophilates, submicron liposomes, the method of preparing various liposomes, the behavior of preliposomal materials upon reconstitution, and the pharmaceutical utility of such compounds including anthracycline containing compounds. In addition, the efficiency of a combined examination and the reduced cost to the Applicants is noted. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

III. OBLIGATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b)

Applicants acknowledge the obligations of 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b). Further comment is deemed unnecessary.

Allowance of the present claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/18/99

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below:

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